

6686

## Welfare Reform Conference Summary Report

**Conference Planning** - A conference planning committee (Appendix 1) comprised of representatives from Alabama Department of Human Resources, Department of Health and Human Services, Alabama Medicaid and Alabama Department of Public Health reviewed and approved conference objectives and assisted in the overall planning and implementation of the conference. A pre conference questionnaire (Appendix 2) designed to gain input from the target audience regarding conference content was distributed to all pre registered participants. However, the return rate was extremely poor, even with follow-up contact to encourage participation.

**Registration** - Due to state and local budget constraints the conference on-site attendance was approximately two thirds (94/155) of the expected registration (Appendix 3). The primary reduction in attendance was experienced in area and supervisory nursing and social work personnel. A statewide layoff in home health by the ADPB also had a negative impact on registration.

**Satellite Broadcast** - The two hour plenary session of the conference was broadcast via satellite. Fliers (Appendix 4) describing this session and identifying satellite coordinates were sent to county and area health offices statewide as well as to distant learning coordinators in state health departments nationally. Site evaluations returned indicated approximately 20 in-state sites and 6 out of state sites downlinked the two hour plenary session. A total of 156 participant viewers were reported by these sites. (Appendix 5) Since the fliers marketed the program at no cost with no registration requirements, the number of downlink locations and contracts are considered an underestimate. The numbers reported are based on site evaluations returned, call-in sites for question/answer period and follow-up contacts made with the Communications Division of the Alabama Department of Public Health. Tapes of the plenary session were made available to counties upon request.

**On-site Evaluation** - The on-site evaluations (Appendix 6) by participants ranked the plenary and concurrent problem solving sessions as beneficial to very beneficial. The main concerns noted in the general comments section related to audio problems experienced by some participants during Mark Greenberg's presentation. Other concerns included the need to include other agencies i.e. United Way and State Department of Public Health as local agency representatives. The need for more information regarding CHIP was also identified as a concern.

**Follow-up Evaluations** - A follow-up survey (Appendix 7) was designed to determine any actions taken to address welfare reform issues identified during the conference. This survey is being reviewed/revised by the ADPH and will be mailed to all conference attendees during March, 1999.

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Concurrent **Work Group Sessions** - Participant input was captured in each **workgroup** session (Appendix 8). This **information** will be used to guide planning and develop strategies to meet local needs **in** child care, **HPDP**, teen pregnancy, prevention and health care access.

**Media Coverage - Newspaper** articles appeared in The Birmingham News, The Montgomery Advertiser, The **UAB Reporter**, and the School of Public Health Newsletter (**Appendix 9**).



STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF  
**PUBLIC HEALTH**


Donald E. Williamson, MD

State Health Officer

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE** April 13, 1998

**TO:** Bureau & Office Directors  
Division & Branch Directors  
Area Administrators  
Assistant Area Administrators  
Area Nursing Directors  
Area Nutritionists  
Area Social Work Directors  
Family Health Service Coordinators

**FROM:** Donald E. Williamson, M.D.   
State Health Officer

**SUBJECT:** Welfare Reform Satellite Conference  
Wednesday, April 22, 1998

As many of you already know, a one-day conference on Welfare Reform is planned for Wednesday, April 22, 1998, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Bell South Operations Center in Birmingham. The purpose of this conference is to strengthen the skills of local health department personnel regarding the new welfare legislation and its impact on public health.

The morning session of this one-day conference will be broadcast via satellite in order to provide an opportunity for those of you who are unable to attend and for other health department personnel to participate in this portion of the welfare reform dialogue. Attached is a flyer which describes this two-hour satellite conference. I hope that our county health departments who have satellite downlink antennas will participate in this program and make their facilities available to DHR employees who may also be interested.

Share the attached flyer with appropriate staff who can participate in this satellite conference.

DEW:jm

Attachment

The RSA Tower • 201 Monroe Street • Montgomery, AL 36104  
P.O. Box 303017 • Montgomery, AL 36130-3017

## **Welfare Reform Satellite Conference**

### **Early Detection, Prevention, and Health Promotion Interventions for Local Health Departments**

**Wednesday, April 22, 1998  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Central Time**

The Alabama Department of Public Health and the School of Public Health, University of Alabama at Birmingham, present this satellite conference for participants to develop a working knowledge of key elements of the new welfare legislation and its impact on public health throughout the United States. The objective of this conference is to strengthen the skills of local health department personnel in early detection, prevention and health promotion interventions for those health conditions that emerge as a result of this legislation.

Conference faculty will highlight issues including the impact of Medicaid changes on health care access, health promotion and disease prevention interventions and services for immigrants, prevention/reduction of teen pregnancies and out of wedlock births and safe, affordable, accessible child care. Key indicators that may impact the health status of populations affected by welfare reform, monitoring systems to track indicators and methods and resources to analyze data will also be discussed.

#### **Faculty:**

Eli Capilouto, DMD, MPH, ScD, Professor and Dean, School of Public Health,  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Mark H. Greenberg, Esq., Senior Staff Attorney, Center for Law and Social Policy,  
Washington, DC

Donald E. Williamson, MD, State Health Officer, Alabama Department of Public Health

#### **Satellite Coordinates**

	<b><u>Ku-Band</u></b>	<b><u>C-Band</u></b>
Satellite:	SBS 6	Galaxy 9
Transponder:	4	2
Orbital Slot:	74 degrees West	123 Degrees West
Downlink Frequency:	11798.5 MHz	3740 MHz
Polarity:	Vertical	Horizontal
Audio:	6.2 - 6.8	6.2 - 6.8

The set-up time is 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., central time. If you have difficulties during the set-up or during the program, call technical assistance at (800) 392-6671.

If you have questions regarding satellite coordinates, contact Sandra Blakely or Darlene Coleman: (334) 206-5618; [videocomm@mindspring.com](mailto:videocomm@mindspring.com).

Support for this project includes the Alabama Department of Public Health, School of Public Health, UAB, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, and the Department of Health & Human Services Region IV.

The Alabama Department of Public Health is a Public Health Training Network Partner

# Welfare Reform

## Early Detection, Prevention, and Health Promotion Interventions for Local Health Departments

### Satellite Conference Participation Form



#### Site Information:

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of participants: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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No registration required. No handout materials. No continuing education units.

**After the conference, please** complete this form and fax to:

Alabama Department of Public Health  
Video Communications Division  
Attn: Darlene B. Coleman  
201 Monroe Street, Suite 940  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Phone: (334) 206-5637; Fax: (334) 206-5640

### Welfare Reform Satellite Conference Participants

Agency	In-State	Out-Of-State	# of Participants
Minnesota Department of Health		St. Paul, MN	4
Tennessee Department of Health		Nashville, TN	7
Colorado Dept. Of Pubic Health		Denver, CO	5
Green County Health Department	Eutaw, AL		2
Dallas County Health Department	Selma, AL		1
Oregon Health Division		Portland, OR	30
Tennessee Department Of Health South Central Region		Columbia, TN	3
Washington County Home Health	Chatom, AL		0
Public Health Department Area 10	Dothan, AL		1
Public Health Department Area 6	Anniston, AL		6
Dale County Health Department	Ozark, AL		2
Covington County Health Dept.	Andalusia, AL		5
Escambia County Health Dept.	Flomaton, AL		3
Autauga County Health Department	Plattville, AL		10
Colbert County Health Department	Sheffield, AL		2
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health		Baton, Rouge, LA	31
* 10 Additional Sites			44
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>156</b>

\* An additional ten sites with 44 participants were added based on phone follow-up with the Communications Division.

## WELFARE REFORM

April 22, 1998

### Evaluation Overview

	Not As Beneficial	Beneficial	Very Beneficial	Omit
Overall Content of Program	0	29	13	2
Overview of Welfare Reform Mark Greenberg	5	23	14	2
Status of Alabama/Panel Discussion	0	27	17	0
Impact of Medicaid & CHIP Changes on Health Care Access	2	15	8	0.
Health Promotion Disease Prevention Interventions and Services for Immigrants	2	10	7	0
Prevention/Reduction of Teen Preg and Out of Wedlock births	1	24	6	0
Affordable, Accessible, Safe Quality Day Care	0	10	4	0

comments:

Could not hear speaker - Mark Greenberg

Very good meeting/Good format

Very difficult to hear speakers in conference room

Excellent/Let's do it again

Needed representation from State Dept. Of Education

I was not aware that this was available on satellite - if I had know this I would have not traveled over 200+ round trip and 4 hours travel time/Good program overall.

Good opportunity for cross pollenization between agencies/Did not seem to be much DHR representation/We need to do more of this.

concurrent seminars were well done - helpful, organized format.

More specific information on welfare reform needed - diverse group some with tremendous knowledge and others with minimal/CHIPS discussion - more specific info on CHIPS

needed so group could have kept on focus/Follow-up workshop, planning necessary/Would have been beneficial to have discussion about local initiatives • example: United Way (Jeff. Co.) Effort • Central Alabama Task force for Self Sufficiency Harry Brown.

Greenberg talks too fast; hard to follow and understand exactly what he is saying.

Greenberg very hard to hear- talked fast which further restricted relay of information.

Excellent.

Can participants receive future recommendations on proposed changes/Programs resulting from this event?

Invite UAB SPH student next time! Very beneficial.

Next time it may be more helpful to have actual recipients/providers to give another level. of understanding of the issues explored.

Audio system was terrible- could not understand presentation- had to move to other side of building.

Kept straying from topic of CHIPS/Need more basic information related to what CHIPS is and what this means for public health.